



Maine Nonpoint Source Training News



Winter/Spring 2004

Volume 6 Issue 1

Center Announces 2004 Winter/Spring Training Schedule

A number of Courses highlight the Nonpoint Source Training and Resource Center's 2004 Winter/Spring Training Schedule.

Course offerings for contractors interested in certification include three basic and three advanced sessions in erosion control best management practices.

For those certified contractors whose certification expired at the end of 2003, we are offering a half-day continuing education program in Bridgton.

For folks interested in becoming certified to inspect or install septic systems, in cooperation with the Department of Human Services, we will again be offering a course on the inspection procedure in addition to three courses on system installation.

In an effort to provide information to **individuals involved in pollution prevention efforts**, on techniques to estimate pollutants controlled by the installation of best management practices, the Center is sponsoring a training program on these techniques. The program will take place in March in Augusta.

Landscape professionals interested in increasing their knowledge of LakeSmart landscaping practices will have an opportunity to do so at a Center



LakeSmart landscaping is a great way to beautify your lakefront property and protect your lake's water quality at the same time. To learn more, sign up for one of our LakeSmart Programs listed on page 2.

sponsored program in March. The services provided by the participants in this course will be marketed to landowners in lake watersheds who are interested in LakeSmart Landscaping but do not have the ability to do it on their own.

For landowners interested in doing their own LakeSmart landscaping, four programs will be offered in various lake regions throughout the state in the Summer of 2004.

Finally, in cooperation with the State's Soil & Water Conservation Districts, the Center will co-sponsor three programs that will provide training to a variety of individuals.

These programs include: a Conservation Expo, which is a day-long event that will feature various training opportunities; instruction on the maintenance of unpaved roads, which features several courses throughout the state on the use of the "Front Runner" maintenance device; and a workshop on highway design for road crew personnel that will include a subsequent technical assistance component.

The listing on the next page and the enclosed flyer outline all of the course sessions being offered.

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2004 Winter/Spring Training Schedule

Summary of Fall 2003 Training Season

Septic System Inspection Program Ready to Go

Audubon International's Golf Course Certification Program Brought to Maine

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1) Basic Erosion Control For Contractors

Session # N0429 Madison, January 22, 2004
Rivers Edge Restaurant
Registration Deadline: 1/14/04

Session # N0431 Livermore Falls, February 10, 2004
Livermore Falls Public Library
Registration Deadline: 2/2/04

Session # N0432 Ellsworth, February 12, 2004
Holiday Inn
Registration Deadline: 2/4/04

2) Advanced Erosion Control For Contractors

Session # N0430 Madison, January 28, 2004
Rivers Edge Restaurant
Registration Deadline: 1/20/04

Session # N0433 Livermore Falls, February 24, 2004
Livermore Falls Public Library
Registration Deadline: 2/16/04

Session # N0434 Ellsworth, February 26, 2004
Holiday Inn
Registration Deadline: 2/18/04

3) Continuing Education Program for Certified Contractors

Session # N0428 Bridgton, January 15, 2004
Lakes Environmental Association Headquarters
Registration Deadline: 1/9/04

4) Septic System Installation

Session # J0429 Portland, March 4, 2004
Holiday Inn West
Registration Deadline: 2/24/04

Session # J0430 Ellsworth, March 10, 2004
The White Birches
Registration Deadline: 3/8/04

Session # J0431 Brewer, March 24, 2004
Jeff's Catering
Registration Deadline: 3/16/04

5) LakeSmart Landscaping For Landscape Professionals

Session # N0435 Bangor, March 9, 2004
Ramada Inn
Registration Deadline: 3/1/04

Session # N0436 Portland, March 10, 2004
Verrillo's Convention Center
Registration Deadline: 3/2/04

6) Estimation Techniques For NPS Pollutants Controlled

Session # N0437 Augusta, March 17, 2004
Augusta Civic Center
Registration Deadline: 3/9/04

7) Septic System Inspection

Session # N0438 Augusta, March 24, 2004
Augusta Civic Center
Registration Deadline: 3/17/04

8) LakeSmart Landscaping for Lake Protection

Session # N0439 Belgrade Lakes, June 26, 2004
North Belgrade Community Center
Registration Deadline: 6/18/04

Session # N0440 Blue Hill, July 17, 2004
Location to be announced
Registration Deadline: 7/9/04

Session # N0441 Auburn, July 31, 2004
Brackett Environmental Center
Registration Deadline: 7/23/04

Session # N0442 Windham, August 7, 2004
Location to be announced
Registration Deadline: 7/31/04

Session # N0443 Ellsworth, August 28, 2004
The White Birches
Registration Deadline: 8/20/04

To register for any of these courses, please complete the registration form on the top half of page 3 and send it along with the appropriate fee to J.E.T.C.C at the address indicated.

Maine Nonpoint Source Training and Resource Center Course Registration Form

Name: _____ Tel. _____

Address: _____

Company: _____

The Courses I would like to attend are:Course # _____ Session # _____ to be held in _____ Course Fee: _____
(City or Town)Course # _____ Session # _____ to be held in _____ Course fee: _____
(City or Town)Course # _____ Session # _____ to be held in _____ Course Fee: _____
(City or Town)**Course Fees:**

- 1) Basic Erosion Control Practices - \$45
- 2) Advanced Erosion Control Practices - \$45
- 3) Continuing Education For Certified Contractors - \$30
- 4) Septic System Installation- \$50
- 5) LakeSmart Landscaping For Landscape Professionals- \$25
- 6) Estimation Techniques for NPS Pollutants Controlled - \$45
- 7) Septic System Inspection - \$45
- 8) LakeSmart Landscaping- FREE

Please add an additional \$10 to the registration fee for registrations sent after the deadline date.Send this form along with the appropriate fee(s) to: **J.E.T.C.C.***(Checks should be made payable to: J.E.T.C.C.)***P.O. Box 487****Scarborough, Maine 04070-0487****Tel. (207) 253-8020**

2003 Fall Training Season Hosts Close to 400 Individuals



The Nonpoint Source Training and Resource Center's 2003 Fall Training season was successful in reaching a number of groups. Training was held for contractors, municipal code enforcement officers, home inspectors, environmental and resource managers and golf course superintendents.

Training in erosion control practices for contractors continues to be popular with **68** individuals participating in Center courses. This training resulted in **39** candidates for cer-

tification in these practices.

For those individuals whose certification was to expire at the end of 2003, five continuing education programs were held throughout the state. These four hour sessions featured information on new laws, law changes and updates, and hosted **57** participants.

In order to provide the latest information on agricultural and erosion and sediment control best management practices to the state's code enforcement officers (CEOs), the Center partnered with the Department of Agriculture to host four courses on these practices throughout the state. The sessions were well attended with **136** CEOs participating.

In order to provide training to inspectors for the housing and urban development program, on the inspection of

septic systems, the Center partnered with the Departments of Economic and Community Development and Human Services to host a training session in Bangor. The session was well attended with **53** participants, bringing the total number of individuals certified in the state to **418**.

Finally, in an effort to assist golf courses in operating in an environmentally friendly manner, the Center co-sponsored a program on Audubon International's Golf Course Certification (See article on page 4). A total of **80** individuals attended the two sessions.

The Center would like to thank the Advisory Committee members, instructors, sponsors, J.E.T.C.C., and other organizations who made the Fall 2003 Training season so successful!

Septic System Inspection Program Ready to Roll with over 400 Inspectors Trained and Certified



In collaboration with the Department of Human Services, Division of Health Engineering (DHE) as well as members of the Maine Association of Site Evaluators (MASE), the Center held five training programs on the inspection of subsurface wastewater disposal systems in 2003.

Through the use of lecture and video, these training programs provided information on the proper procedure to inspect septic systems. Individuals attending the programs were certified as inspectors by DHE for a five year period.

Since there is no existing program that targets Maine's 330,000 septic systems for inspection to determine if they are functioning properly, this voluntary certification was developed to help promote the inspection of systems at property transfer.

A malfunctioning septic system is a major source of nonpoint source pollution. These systems discharge pollutants such as nutrients and bacteria that threaten ground and surface water quality.

With over 400 inspectors now on board, the program will be marketed to lending institutions, realtors and prospective home buyers. It is anticipated that a system inspection will be adopted as a routine requirement prior to purchase of a home, similar to well water testing and home inspection.

Other states such as Massachusetts, Pennsylvania and Rhode Island

have similar inspection programs for systems in their respective states.

A listing of certified inspectors can be obtained on DHE's web page at: www.maine.gov/dhs/eng/plumb/system_inspections.htm

For those who may be interested in becoming an inspector, the Center will be sponsoring another training program in March (see pages 2 and 3 to sign up). For more information on the program, please contact the Center at 287-7726.

LakeSmart Program Honors More Property Owners



The LakeSmart program was piloted last summer as a means to educate property owners in lake watersheds on ways to manage their properties to protect lake water quality. The program does this by providing training sessions and recognizing property owners who have successfully met program criteria.

The Center would like to take this opportunity to congratulate **Michael Dixon and Carmen Dufresne of Auburn** on their LakeSmart Award for their property on Taylor Pond. We would also like to congratulate **Jack and Pat Zinke, Norman Cole, and Darcy Parlee and Wendy Harpool** for the LakeSmart recognition certificates they received for their properties.

Training in Audubon International's Certification Program Provided to Maine's Golf Course Superintendents



The State of Maine has over 146 Golf Courses that provide recreational opportunities to thousands of people each year. If improperly managed these courses can be a significant source of nonpoint source pollution. Audubon International's Golf Course Certification program provides golf courses with an incentive to manage their facilities in an environmentally sound manner. For this reason, in the fall of 2003, the Center partnered with Audubon International, the Casco Bay Estuary Project and the Maine Golf Course Superintendent's Association to introduce the Certification program to Maine Golf Course Superintendents.

The program covers six environmental areas: environmental planning, wildlife and habitat management, chemical use reduction and safety, water conservation, water quality management, and outreach and education.

In a course held in October, training was provided in these areas to 43 participants, representing a number of Maine golf courses. Similar training was also held for consultants and state and federal environmental managers to provide golf courses with a source for technical assistance.

It is anticipated that with follow-up and technical assistance, and the recognition that the program provides, more Maine golf courses will participate and manage their facilities in an environmentally sound manner to protect Maine's water resources.

The Nonpoint Source Training and Resource Center is funded under Section 319 of the Clean Water Act and is a program of the Department of Environmental Protection's Division of Watershed Management. The Center is located at the Department's Ray Building Headquarters in Augusta and can be reached at 287-7726. Visit our Internet Web site at <http://www.state.me.us/dep/blwq/training/index.htm>

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